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News Release

In Cooperation with Clemson University

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CORN PRODUCTION UP FROM 2008

Based on September 1 conditions, the yield for corn is up from last year, while yield's for cotton, tobacco, soybeans and peanuts were down, the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office announced today.

COTTON production in 2009 is forecast at 165,000 bales – down 18 percent from last month and down 33 percent from last year. Yield per acre is expected to average 720 pounds, up 5 pounds from the August forecast, but down 161 pounds from the 2008 yield. Acreage for harvest, at 110,000 acres, is down 18 percent from 2008.

CORN production in 2009 is expected to total 34.2 million bushels, up 9 percent from last month, and up 67 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre of 107 bushels is up 9 bushels from the August forecast, and up 42 bushels from 2008. Acreage for harvest as grain, at 320,000, is up 5,000 acres from 2008.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO production, as of September 1, is forecast at 37.9 million pounds. This is down 7 percent from last month's forecast, and down 5 percent from last year's production of 39.9 million pounds. Yield per acre of 2,050 pounds is down 150 pounds from last month, and down 50 pounds from last year. Acreage for harvest, at 18,500, is unchanged from last month, but down 500 acres from a year ago.

SOYBEAN production this year is forecast at 15.9 million bushels, unchanged from last month, but down 6 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre of 27 bushels is unchanged from the August forecast, but down 5 bushels from 2008. Acres for harvest, at 590,000, are up 60,000 acres from a year ago.

PEANUT production is forecast at 155.1 million pounds – down 12 percent from last month and down 42 percent from a year ago. Yield per acre, at 3,300 pounds is down 100 pounds from August and down 600 pounds from the 2008 yield. Acreage for harvest, at 47,000, is down 21,000 acres from last year.

UNITED STATES 2009 PRODUCTION AND PERCENT OF PREVIOUS YEAR

Corn	13.0 Bil. Bu	107 %	Peanuts	3.68 Bil. Lbs.	71 %
Soybeans	3.25 Bil. Bu.	110 %	Cotton,Upland	13.1 Mil. Bales	106 %
Tobacco, F.C.	506 Mil.Lbs.	101 %			